

Application No.: 09/994,045

Docket No.: 3313-0421P

REMARKS

Claims 12-24 are now present in this application.

The specification has been amended, claims 1-11 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 12-24 have been added. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over AYKIN, U.S. Patent 6,516,301, NATARAJAN, U.S. Patent 5,315,509, HSIUNG et al., U.S. Publication No. 2003/0109951, and SHELTON, U.S. Patent 5,836,989. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable AYKIN, NATARAJAN, HSIUNG et al., and SHELTON, and further in view of NAKANO et al., U.S. Patent 6,505,199. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has combined four references to reject independent claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that there is no motivation in the references to make such a combination. Nonetheless, it is additionally noted that the AYKIN et al. reference does not disclose the feature of an Enterprise Resource Planning server. Also, this AYKIN et al. reference does not disclose trial-run prototypes/modules or transferring the build order back to a storage medium. The AYKIN et al. reference also does not explode the build of material (BOM) of the build order through the ERP server. The BOM is also not integrated to store it back to the storage medium through the ERP server.

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The secondary reference to NATARAJAN does not disclose the feature of an Enterprise Resource Planning server. Also, trial-run prototype modules are not disclosed. This reference does not transfer the build order back to the storage medium and does not integrate the build material to store it back to the storage medium through the ERP server.

The HSIUNG et al. reference does not disclose the feature of trial-run prototypes/modules. It also does not transfer the build order back to a storage medium, does not explode the BOM of the build order through the ERP server, and does not integrate the build material to store it back to the storage media through the ERP server.

The last reference to SHELTON does not disclose the features of an ERP server, or transferring the build order back to the storage medium. This reference will not explode the BOM of the build order through the ERP server and will not integrate the BOM to store it back to the storage medium through the ERP server.

The present invention provides for a method for checking the materials on hand for a trial-run prototype modules for solving the problem of forecasting material shortages and avoiding overstocks. Typical inventory management systems do not account for trial run prototype modules and problems can arise as has been discussed in the background of the present invention.

None of the cited references disclose the features of integrating the build on materials to store it back to the storage medium through the ERP server. The claimed

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method of the instant invention is neither suggested nor rendered obvious by the prior art utilized by the Examiner. The secondary reference to NAKANO et al. does not overcome these noted deficiencies.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 35 USC 103 rejection now be reconsidered and withdrawn. Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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